CLAIMS

1. A host site comprising:
an application tier that generates resource utilization data; and
a client-response tier that performs admission control using said
5   resource utilization data.

2. A host site as recited in Claim 1 wherein:
said client-response tier has
an admissions control gateway for receiving client requests
from client computers;
10   a deferral manager for making determinations concerning
which of said client requests should be admitted for
processing at least in part as a function of application-
resource-utilization data;
a client-request processor for processing client requests
15   admitted for processing, said client-request processor
generating application requests in response to at least some
of said client requests, said client-request processor
generating client responses in response to application
responses received in response to said application requests;
20   and
said application tier has
at least one application-tier server not in said client-
response tier,
an application processing function running on said server
25   for responding to said application requests with said
application responses, and
a resource monitor for generating said application-
resource-utilization data by monitoring utilization parameters
on said server, said resource monitor communicating said
30   resource-utilization to said deferral manager.

3. A system as recited in Claim 2 wherein said client-request processor transmits said client responses to said client computers in accordance with an http protocol.

4. A system as recited in Claim 2 wherein said client-response tier includes at least one client-response-tier server on which said deferral manager and said client-request processor run, said client-response-tier also having a client-response-tier resource monitor for generating client-response-tier resource utilization data as a function of parameters associated with said client-response-tier server, said client-response-tier resource monitor providing said client-response-tier resource utilization data to said deferral manager, said deferral manager making said determinations in part as a function of said client-response-tier resource utilization data.

5. A system as recited in Claim 4 wherein said deferral manager also generates requests to expand the processing capacity on said client-response tier.

6. A system as recited in Claim 2 wherein said deferral manager generates requests to expand the processing capacity on said application tier.

7. A system as recited in Claim 6 wherein said processing capacity is expanded by one or more of the following: increasing the number of servers, increasing the number of processors, increasing CPU entitlement.

8. A network hosting method for a host site having an application tier and a client-response tier, said application tier having at least one server not included in said client-response tier, said method comprising a client-response process and a resource-monitoring process,

said resource-monitoring process involving

a1) monitoring resource utilization at said application tier,

a2) generating resource-utilization data at said application tier and transmitting said resource-utilization data to said client-response tier, and

said request processing involving

b1) receiving at said client-response-tier a client request from a client via a network,

b2) making an admissions determination at said client-response tier whether said client request should be admitted immediately or deferred, said determination being made at least in part as a function of said resource-utilization data,

b3) when said client request is admitted, sending an application request from said client-response tier to said application tier,

b4) generating an application response at said application tier and transmitting said application response to said client-response tier, and

b5) generating a client response as a function of said application response and transmitting said client response to said client via said network.

9.   A method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at step b2) in the event a determination is made to defer admission of said client request, a notification is sent to said client to that effect via said network.

5   10.   A method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at step b2, in the event a determination is made to defer admission, a request is generated to increase the processing capacity on said application tier.

11.   A method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at step b2) said 10   determination is also a function of resource-utilization data generated at said client-response tier.

12. A host site method comprising:

generating resource-utilization data on an application tier; and

using said data on a client-response tier to determine admission-15   control policy.